

LEGISLATURE OF VERMONT.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
November 15, 1836.

The Select Committee of fourteen, consisting of one member from each County, to wit: Messrs. Pritch, Canfield, Burgess, Kellogg, Edson, Brewster, Sanford, Fairbanks, Clough, Eaton, Richmond of Derby, Howe of Lunenburg, Adams of Grand Isle, and Cady, to whom was referred the memorial of certain inhabitants of Thetford, remonstrating against licensing the sale of ardent spirits, and sundry other memorials on the same subject, made the following Report, which was ordered to be laid on the table, and five hundred copies printed.

A. L. MINER, Clerk.

REPORT.

To the House of Representatives:

Your Committee to whom were referred sundry memorials, praying that the traffic and manufacture of ardent spirits may be interdicted by law, respectfully report.—That they have endeavored to give the subject assigned them for consideration, that deliberate and careful examination which its acknowledged importance, and the many and serious embarrassments with which it is attended, obviously required. And while they are not prepared to recommend to this Legislature the enactment of a prohibitory law, they would, nevertheless, by no means controvert the position assumed by the memorialists, that the evil complained of is a proper and legitimate subject of legislative enactment.

The only reason why your Committee forbear urging an entire change in the license law, at the present time, is the want of an adequate persuasion that the public mind is prepared for so decided a measure. We would, however, by no means affirm that the public mind is not thus prepared. The memorials, both from their number, and the respectability of the names attached to them, evince that on this subject an extensive and most happy change has been effected in the feelings and views of the community. But still, in view of the very serious evils of pre-emptive legislation, we deem it advisable to recommend a reference of the subject to a future legislature. And we do it with a strong hope, and indeed with a confident expectation that the friends of this most important and desirable reform, will then furnish satisfactory evidence that the change is decidedly called for, and will be effectually sustained by public sentiment.

In support of the opinion which we have advanced that a prohibition of the traffic in spirituous liquors, except for medicinal and other legitimate purposes, is expedient and necessary, we beg leave to call your attention to some grave, and in our view, conclusive considerations. With regard to the guilt and the evils of intemperance, there can be no controversy; and in any representation which can be made on this subject there is little danger of exaggeration. It is the most fruitful source of crime and wretchedness. There is no interest of man, regarded as an individual, or viewed in any of his relations, civil, social, or religious, which is not warped upon by this vice. Who does not know that it is the parent of disease in multiplied forms, and that in the sad work of cutting short of human life, neither war, pestilence nor famine, can sustain a comparison with the ravages of this destroyer? It not only occasions in its victims a temporary derangement of the mind, but to an extent equal to all other causes, ensures a permanent subversion of reason; and one half of the tenants of hospitals for the insane, have become maniacs through intemperance. Who is a stranger to the mental and moral debasement it produces? Who does not know how often it renders man a brute, and almost a fiend—how often it converts the domestic circle, the appropriate seat of joy and love, into a scene of discord and hate, subjecting the wife and children not only to poverty and want, to cold and hunger and rags; but to outrage and cruelty? Who is not aware how directly it leads to poverty, so that he would need no gift of prophecy to be able to foretell the beggary to which the man who is becoming enslaved by this vice, will by and by subject himself? It is to this cause that a vast preponderance of the pauperism which burdens the public, owes its existence. Who is ignorant of the preparation for every species of crime, from petty larceny up to acts of atrocious violence done to persons and life, which intemperance occasions, by degrading the intellect, paralyzing the conscience, blunting the kinder feelings of the heart, and often firing the passions with a violent and unnatural excitement? Hence, in nearly or quite nine cases out of ten, the murders perpetrated through the country owe their commission to the use of ardent spirits; and other crimes spring from the same source in nearly the same proportion.

The question then presents itself,—How can this vice and its consequent evils be effectually removed? Your committee believe that this desirable object can be secured only by an interdiction of the traffic, except for purposes before specified. It is a position, which experience establishes beyond doubt or controversy, that the ordinary use and abuse of ardent spirits are inseparable. As long as the article is employed as a means of exhilaration or refreshment, so long appetite will be created, the craving of which will be indulged in defiance of consequences, and to a wide extent, in spite of every effort at prevention, the drunkard's habits and vices and woes will continue to annoy and afflict the public. With just as much reason may we cherish the anticipation that any maxim of mathematical truth, or any principle of physical science will prove false as that this position shall be found untrue.—But as long as the article is offered for sale in our stores and taverns to the intemperate, the hope is visionary and idle, that it will not be bought and consumed, & produce its legitimate and melancholy effects. The allurements of opportunity and temptation will be too powerful for those who are already under the dominion of a depraved appetite; and others, especially the young, bent on pleasure, and reckless of consequences, or not awake to its ruinous tendency, will indulge themselves in drinking, until they have fastened upon themselves the bonds of an inexorable & fatal habit. The traffic, then must

be done away with, or the vice of intemperance, with its sad train of evils, must be endured.

But who will suppose that the vending of spirituous liquors can be prevented, without a legal prohibition? There are men in every community, who are regardless of the means by which they acquire gain; and if this traffic can be made profitable, it will be prosecuted, in spite of its nefarious character. Others, too, who might be willing, and even rejoiced to relinquish it, will still continue it, from the apprehension that some of those around them, will in that case acquire an advantage over them in their business, highly pernicious in its results.

That the traffic is wrong, is a position capable of the most satisfactory and unquestionable proof. We are to a wide extent, to estimate our conduct by its tendencies. And certainly a traffic which is suited to foster and perpetuate and extend one of the grossest and most noxious of all the vices, which degrade, corrupt, afflict and ruin mankind, cannot but be marked with guilt. And every man who vends ardent spirit may rightfully be regarded as an accessory before the fact to all the evils which may be the result. But ought it to be a question with the Legislature of a community like ours whether they shall continue to give a legal character to sin? Ought it to be a question whether we shall still say to a numerous class of individuals through the State—if you are willing to pay for the privileges, we will authorize you to engage in an employment which cannot be carried on without iniquity, and which may justly be pronounced, as it regards the public, a species of political suicide?

Again, the sanction which the law gives this traffic, ought to be withdrawn, in view of its influence upon the sentiments and feelings of large numbers in the community. It renders ineffectual all appeals to the consciences and to the better feelings of very many of those engaged in this noxious commerce. They shield themselves from responsibility and blame, behind the license which they receive from legislative authority. To no purpose are they told that their business is wrong, while the statute-book pronounces it right. And the inference is not a remote nor an obscure one, that if vending be right, buying and consuming cannot be wrong. Hence the license law operates in a manner most mischievous, affording a quietus to men's consciences with regard to the course which they are pursuing; when, if there were no law upon the subject, they would be more open to a conviction of their guilt, and more accessible to inducements to reform. Your committee, however, would by no means contemplate a repeal of the existing law, without enacting a substitute. For while in one point of view, it sanctions and legalizes the traffic in ardent spirits, in another, it operates as a restraining statute. There is, we are persuaded, a less extensive sale of the article than if all laws on the subject were now done away. The law, carrying as it does, the seal of reprobation upon itself, by the monopoly which it creates, and by the explicit declaration which it makes, that the business is such as cannot safely be left open, like all useful employments, to the enterprise and competition of the whole community,—is still one which cannot, without injury, be dispensed with.—Such are the views and feelings of a considerable portion of the public, created in part we apprehend, by the existing law itself, that if it were repealed, the places at which intoxicating liquors are sold would be greatly multiplied; and prosecution at common law, followed by conviction and punishment, could not be expected for an act, to which the statute had so long granted not only toleration, but also a legal character. In New Orleans, not long since, an analogous case existed. The city authorities had long been in the practice of licensing gaming-houses, and had derived from it a large revenue.—But they had become convinced that these establishments were public nuisances, and that the money received was a poor remuneration to the community for the injury it sustained. What in this case did they deem it necessary to do? Did they merely decline issuing licenses, and a compensation for them; leaving every man who chose, at liberty to open a gaming-house? On the contrary, they enacted a decided prohibitory statute, enforced, by severe penalties, heavy fines, and protracted imprisonment in the penitentiary.

Your Committee will close their discussion of this subject, by noticing two or three difficulties, with which they believe that some minds are perplexed.

It has been made a question by some, whether the Legislature has a constitutional right to enact on this subject, a prohibitory law. But if we have not this right, the provision of our national or state constitution, can be pointed out, in which that right has been surrendered. But your committee have yet to learn where the essential attribute of every government,—self-preservation,—has been parted with by us, so that we cannot defend ourselves against corruption and ruin, by interdicting what is incompatible with public virtue and happiness and safety.

But we remark further, that unless our present laws on this subject are a tissue of usurpation, and all unconstitutional and null, we have beyond controversy, the right of entire interdiction. For if we have authority to say that no man shall sell spirituous liquors unless he pays five dollars for a license, we may say that no one shall do so unless he pays five hundred dollars; and if five hundred, then, we may say five thousand. We may thus prohibit indirectly, by fixing the price of a license so high that it will be for no man's interest, and within the scope of no man's means, to pay it. But, it is one of the plainest and best settled principles of law and ethics and common sense, that what a man may not do directly, he may not do indirectly. And where no constitutional provision is involved, the doctrine which holds true of an individual is true of a legislative body. If then, the whole system of license in this state and in all the states of this country, be not unconstitutional and a downright usurpation,—and the validity of the system, has never, that we are aware of, been called in question,—we may

prohibit directly by making it penal to sell; or by fixing the fee for a license so high that no man either will or can buy.

There are some, however, who appear to labor under the misapprehension, that a prohibitory law would be an encroachment on the rights of the community, and chargeable with injustice and oppression. But no individual has rights at war with the public safety and welfare. It is a principle of law well settled, and every where recognized, that no man is at liberty to use even his own property in such manner as to essentially injure others, or to become a public nuisance. On the ground that the public good is to limit the rights, and to regulate and control the conduct of the members of society, our entire system of jurisprudence proceeds.—A man, may, to be sure, do whatever he pleases, so long as he does not injure other individuals or the public. But when he passes this limit, his rights cease. Now, then, if vending ardent spirits is noxious to his fellow-men, and at war with the vital interests of the public, no man has a right to embark in the business. Why has not a man as perfect a right to convert his farm into a race course, as to open a grog-shop, or a store for the sale of ardent spirits? Your Committee are utterly unable to discover what there is so peculiarly sacred and inviolable in this traffic, that it ought to be exempted from the lot of the other vicious and baneful practices, on which the law does not hesitate to lay its hand.

In proof that the measure proposed is no impracticable and visionary project, the committee beg leave to refer you to what has actually been done in that part of Massachusetts, denominated the Old Colony, containing a population of 120,000 people, where the traffic in all its forms, has been effectually stopped, not indeed by the action of the Legislature, but by the county commissioners, with whom the power of granting or withholding licenses, is entrusted. The results of the measure have been in every view, auspicious. This is evinced by the increased, and more decided approbation of the community, shown by their election by augmented majorities of commissioners known to be in favor of this course; and by the calendars of their courts of civil and criminal justice—cases of the latter kind having become all but extinct. And if a regulation of this character can be carried into effect there, we see no reason why a statute embracing the same principles, could not be carried into effect here, characterized as this state has always been by a deference for law and a general spirit of subordination to its prescriptions.

All which is respectfully submitted.

LYMAN FITCH, for Committee.

MR WEBSTER IN NEW YORK.

The reception of Mr Webster in the city of New York, was precisely such as was to be expected from an intelligent and generous community towards a great statesman, whose time and talents have been devoted to the public weal. Without doubt, Mr Webster's speech was worthy of himself and the occasion. If he is fortunate in transcending talents, he is equally so in enjoying the respect and confidence of intelligent men. He may be opposed in particular sections of the country, and in all parts, by antagonistical partisans, but all intelligent men give him credit for great intellectual powers, and accomplishments. We present our readers with a brief sketch of his address on this occasion, which we doubt not will be acceptable to all our readers.—Boston Centinel.

From the New York Commercial Advertiser.

HONOR TO WHOM HONOR IS DUE.

We knew that DANIEL WEBSTER would be received with great cordiality by our fellow-citizen; but the quadrennial election and all its excitement having passed away, we had no idea that so much of patriot feeling and enthusiastic action would be thus spontaneously called forth on the occasion.

Pursuant to the arrangements of the day, a deputation from the Committee proceeded to Amboy in the morning, to receive the distinguished Senator, and conduct him to the city. The boat was expected to arrive at half past two o'clock, but from some unexplained detention, she was delayed until a quarter past three. Meantime our citizens poured forth, not by hundreds, but literally by thousands, to welcome the man of the nation's hope at his landing. Broadway was filled, and the North Battery covered by a dense mass of citizens, all eager to testify their respect for his character, and the eminent services he has rendered the country. On landing, Mr Webster was conducted to a barouche, drawn by white horses, in which, besides himself, were seated of the committee, Philip Hone, David B. Ogden, and Peter Stagg, Esqrs. In advance of the train of carriages occupied by the committee, was an escort of several hundred persons on horseback. The entire procession numbered many thousands—and from the cheers with which the welkin rang, and the general animation of the scene, our recollections were carried back to the proud day on which Lafayette landed at the Battery, as the guest of the nation.

From the Battery to his lodgings at the American, the progress of Mr Webster was an almost unimpeded, yet glorious civic triumph. The weather was pleasant, and while the streets were thronged to their utmost capacity, the windows were filled with the fair forms, and bright eyes, and smiling faces of that sex, whose admiration of true eloquence and high moral and intellectual worth, is always rendered with prompt but discriminating cordiality, and by every well-regulated mind is accounted among the dearest rewards of genius and great effort. Often was the procession brought to a full stop by the crowd, while the Senator was kept bowing to the multitudes on every side—the thousands cheering below, while the white handkerchiefs were waving from many a fair hand above.

Mr Webster was handed from his carriage at a quarter past four; and, having taken possession of his lodgings, in compliance with the eager demands of the people, presented himself at the window, and made a brief and pertinent address, expressive of the deep sense of gratitude which

he felt at the unexpected public welcome he had received.

At half past six o'clock the appointed exercises at Niblo's saloon took place. Long before the hour, the garden was thronged by respectable citizens, all eager to be first and secure the best places. When the doors were opened the rush was prodigious. The proceedings were commenced by calling David B. Ogden to the chair, as President. Robert C. Cornell, Jonathan Goodhue, Joseph Tucker, and Nathaniel Wood, Esqrs. were appointed Vice Presidents. Joseph Hoxie and George S. Robbins, Secretaries.

Philip Hone, Esq. addressed the meeting on the part of the committee to receive Mr Webster, and said that, agreeably to their instructions, they had met Mr Webster at Amboy, and having performed the agreeable office of conducting him to N. Y. would now introduce to their fellow citizens the man whom every American delighted to honor, and who was at that moment conducted to the stage by gentlemen of the committee.

Mr Webster was received with nine distinct cheers, and followed by a most enthusiastic greeting, which lasted for several minutes. Mr B. B. Ogden then read the following address to him:

"On behalf of a Committee, appointed at a meeting of a number of your personal and political friends in this city, I have now the honor of addressing you.

It has afforded the Committee, and I may add all your political friends, unmingled pleasure to learn that you have, at least for the present, relinquished the intention which I know you had formed, of resigning your seat in the Senate of the United States.—While expressing their feelings upon this change in your determination, the Committee cannot avoid congratulating the country that your public services are not yet to be lost to it, and that the champion of the Constitution and of the Union is still to continue in the field, upon which he has earned so many laurels and has so nobly asserted and defended the rights and liberties of the People.

"The efforts made by you and the honorable men with whom you have acted in the Senate, to resist executive encroachments upon the other departments of the government, will ever be remembered with gratitude by the friends of American liberty.—That these efforts were not more successful, we shall long have reason to remember and regret. The administration of General Jackson is fortunately at an end. Its effects upon the constitution and upon the commercial prosperity of the country are not at an end. Without attempting to review the leading measures of his administration, every man engaged in business in New York feels, most sensibly, that his experiment upon the currency has produced the evils which you foretold it would produce. It has brought distress, to an extent never before experienced, upon the men of enterprise and of small capital, and has put all the primary power in the hands of a few great capitalists.

"Upon the Senate our eyes and our hopes are fixed; we know that you and your political friends are in a minority in that body, but we know in that body are to be found great talents, great experience, great patriotism, and we look for great and continued exertions to maintain the constitution, the union and the liberties of this people. And we take this opportunity of expressing our entire confidence, that whatever men can do in a minority, will be done in the Senate, to relieve the country from the evils under which she is now laboring, and to save her from being sacrificed by folly, corruption, or usurpation."

"It gives me, sir, pleasure, to be the organ of the committee to express to your great respect for your talents, your deep sense of the importance of your public services, and your gratification to learn that you will still continue in the Senate."

Vast as was the audience, it was hushed to less silence than a whisper, as Mr Webster proceeded to respond to the address of the President; and he held the audience chained in silence, save when interrupted by a burst of applause which it was impossible to suppress, for two hours and twenty-five minutes. But although we were so fortunate as to hear every word, we shall attempt no report, but wait for a correct copy from the author's own hand, which we trust will not long be delayed.

After expressing his thanks to the Committee and citizens generally, for the honor they had done him, and his high appreciation of the testimony awarded in favor of his efforts to serve the country, by a community so intelligent and capable of rendering sound judgment as that of the great commercial metropolis, Mr Webster adverted to the obligations of national legislators to study the interests, not of sections but of the whole Union; and justly laid claim to the merit of having endeavored so to shape his legislative conduct, through the whole of his political course.

He then spoke of General Jackson, with the respect due to his age, the high station so lately occupied by him, and his many valuable services to the country; his measures had been sustained by the will of the majority, and to that will it was the duty of good citizens to submit; but those measures were public property, and all had the right to judge of them and to express the judgment freely; a right which he should proceed to exercise, with courtesy and candor, but with no unbecoming reservation—nothing of non committal.

He conceived the constitution to have been violently departed from, and a great approach made to the principle of elective monarchy. That principle seemed to be gaining strength throughout the kingdom of the old world, and he could not say that it is not distinctly visible in the new. The executive has assumed a new character, not mentioned in the constitution—that of representative of the people. The constitution provided for a representation of the people in Congress, and for an executive power appointed to do the people's will; but if the people are not obeyed but represented by the executive, then the government is a monarchy, and the head of it a despot; for he not only does, but determines the will of the people, which is sovereignty.

Under the administration of Gen. Jackson, Mr Webster said, the constitutional balance has been violently shaken, by the new employment of the appointing and removing power, and by the conversion of office into patronage. On these mighty engines of corruption he spoke with exceeding force and directness, and demonstrated the perils with which they threaten the stability of those institutions, so carefully devised by the founders of the republic, as the strong hold of its permanence and prosperity.

Mr Webster next took up the subject of the public lands, the disposition of which he pronounced one of the most important questions of the day, in connection with the surplus revenue, of which they are the principal source; and he emphatically declared his deliberate opinion, that the land bill of Mr Clay is the efficient remedy for the evils with which the country is threatened from this quarter; and this bill he pronounced one of the most felicitous political measures of that great statesman.

The revenue from imports he thought sufficient for the current expenses of the government, and this he would have so managed as to be incidental to protection; although not a strenuous advocate for high tariff, he would extend ample protection to the industry of the country, on all products which are the subject of competition with Europe.

Mr Webster then entered upon a full explanation of his course in relation to the independence of Texas, in the course of which he gave a brief but glowing history of the struggle, out of which that independence had arisen. He thought it well, perhaps, that Texas should be independent of Mexico, but not that she should be annexed to the Union. He thought it time that there should be limits set to the enlargement of the United States by the addition of territory, and that it behooves us especially to pause and reflect before adopting a measure that could possibly be the means of increasing slavery.

There is a deep and powerful feeling against the existence of this institution—a feeling strong enough to shake the Union to its very centre, and one which every effort should be made to allay, rather than to excite and agitate.

The great and most deeply interesting subject of the currency, then called forth the finest exhibition of Mr Webster's acute and powerful intellect. We cannot pretend to give the merest synopsis, even, of his lucid and convincing exposition, not only of the principles connected with this subject, but of the great struggle between the government and the Bank of the United States—by the former for victory and destruction—by the latter for existence and just rights. For this, and for the subsequent remarks upon the inception, character and effect of the specie circular; the object for, and the manner in which it was devised and put in operation—its consequences to the welfare of the country, and especially to the mercantile community—and the probabilities of presidential action upon it hereafter—we must refer our readers to the reported speech, which as already intimated, will be published in the course of a few days, as we have reason to suppose, and in which we do not hesitate to say, the richest intellectual feast will be spread before the eager eyes of Mr Webster's thousands and tens of thousands of admirers, that has adorned the columns of an American journal, since his noble defence of the constitution delivered on the floor of the Senate in 1830.

A large portion of the address consisted of details of facts connected with our political history, and the events and measures in which the Senator had borne a part—affording, of course, but little scope for the rhetorical display. These portions, however, were distinguished by an accuracy of statement, and clearness of analysis, for which his clear and comprehensive mind has such a happy adaptation. There were, likewise, avoid occasional flashes of wit, several passages of deep and thrilling eloquence sufficient to fire the soul. On the subject of the admission of the new slave states, from beyond the original boundaries of the republic, he was electrical, and the peroration was wrought out with surpassing eloquence and effect. The character of the whole address was that of a deep feeling of patriotism—an ardent and abiding love of country, irrespective of self and party—which most commend it to the best sense and best feelings, and the highest applause of the country.

UNITED STATES LAWS.

A BILL explanatory of the act entitled An act granting half pay to widows and orphans where their husbands and fathers have died of wounds received in the military service of the United States, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted, by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the benefits of the third section of the act entitled "An act granting half pay to widows and orphans, where their husbands and fathers have died of wounds received in the military service of the United States, and for other purposes," approved the fourth day of July, eighteen hundred and thirty-six, shall not be withheld from any widow, in consequence of her having married after the death of the husband for whose services she may claim to be allowed a pension or annuity under said act: *Provided*, That she was a widow at the time it was passed.

SECTION 2. And be it further enacted, That the widow of any person who continued in the service of the United States until the third day of November, seventeen hundred and eighty-three, and was married before that day, and while her husband was in such service, shall be entitled to the benefits of the third section of the aforesaid act.

APPROVED, March 3, 1837.

There is a man living in a state of the utmost barbarity at Bouvers, near Calais.—Nearly naked, or covered with tattered rags and long matted locks of hair, he sleeps in the open air, eats his food raw, scarcely articulates but guttural sounds, and bounds like a panther when pursued. Wretch or maniac as this savage is, a tender sister is said to devote her life to the few comforts her daily labor can procure.

VERMONT PHOENIX.

BRATTLEBORO, Vt.
Friday Morning, March 24, 1837.

THE LATE STAGE ACCIDENT.

MR. EDITOR:—As there are various rumours afloat in regard to the distressing accident which happened on the morning of the 14th inst. while crossing "Cold River," and many of them are very wide from the truth, I take the liberty to give below a simple statement of facts, which you are at liberty to publish if you deem proper.

I left Walpole, N. H. on the morning of the 13th inst. in company with four passengers, ladies and one gentleman. The ladies and myself, were seated in the inside of the stage, the gentleman took his seat on the outside. The names of the ladies were, Mrs. Dunham, Mrs. Chesley and Mrs. Tasket. The Rutland stage and an "express" followed in our rear. When we crossed Cold River, the driver drew up, and proceeded on to the bridge at a slow walk.

At this time the ice in Cold River appeared thin, and was moving down stream very rapidly, or without any apparent constriction. When we were part of the way across the bridge, it fell about ten feet, and so we all together that the stage kept its position until we began to move downward, immediately the stage rolled over on its side. As the stage rolled, Mrs. Chesley and Miss Tasket fell partly through the ice on the river side, and were nearly under water. Great exertions I drew them up, and all of us stood with our hands out at the upper end of the stage. In this situation we were rapidly down the stream. I saw the shore, and the outside passenger on the opposite shore, having escaped by way of the bank and the floating bridge. The water in Connecticut had not risen; in consequence of which, the accumulated water in Cold River caused quite a fall, as it entered Connecticut. When we arrived at the stage rolled, and it was with great exertions that we could keep above the water. I succeeded in getting on top of the stage and caught hold of Mrs. Dunham, being nearest to me. At this instant, stage, being driven with tremendous force, struck the ice in the Connecticut at the same time the ice from Cold River struck it. Mrs. D. and myself were thrown from the loose ice, she being enclosed in her duffle, and also one of my feet, was free. The other two ladies had disappeared. I never saw them more! The only one spoken by Mrs. D. were—"Do pull me with an earnestness and manner I never forgot. I made many attempts to extricate her from her horrible situation; but in vain. At every movement of the stage was drawn still lower down, till nothing remained above but her head and one arm, which she must have been crushed by the ice, as she died apparently without struggle. I remained by her till life came extinct. We were at this time three-fourths of the way across Cold River. Knowing I could render her no assistance, I then sought my own way by making my way, as best I could, to Vermont shore, which was accomplished with no small difficulty, as the broken timber and rolled, while the water rose most fearfully.

I would here remark that report kept my trunk under my arm during the whole of this fearful scene; and that I threw away my trunk, I might have saved some of the lives of my unfortunate companions! This report is ungenerous and false. I did not have my trunk, neither I think of it, till after I left Mrs. D. I ever found it on my way to the Vermont shore. I walked to Bellows Falls in an exhausted state, where I received from Hall that kindness and attention which will ever be remembered with gratitude.

CHIPMAN SWALE.

Putney, March 21, 1837.

* Report says that "just before we crossed the bridge, the driver was warned to stop, and that he did stop his team about one minute. This is not true as to his stopping, stage most assuredly did not stop. The driver was "warned" or not, is beyond knowledge. I certainly heard no such thing there can be no blame attached to the driver whatever.

LATEST FROM FLORIDA.

The late Jacksonville Courier says nothing further had been heard from Jesup. We extract the following from the Courier:

After all the time spent—all the expense given, all the credit vouchsafed by Simon chiefs and their Mancoosaw, being tired of war, of wishing to surrender they have not come in—or had not intelligence from Fort Ararat, Micanopy, Phillips and Osceola, having warriors yet unsubdued, unhumiliated, and as greedy for the battle as ever. Our confidence, even when we had, of the war being over is growing, or fainter—because the Indians are coming in—they have not done as the Alligator promised. They are acting a deceptive part—they are cunning, and are ambiguous and evasive in their "talks" so far as we can judge what we hear; and because General himself, in our opinion, places no confidence in those chiefs who have come in.

"Every preparation is being made to execute the war. News from Valmala, 7th inst. says, that nothing has been heard there from Dade's battle ground. Nine companies under one Col. M. were to have left that place on the 10th for Fort Mollon, at Lake Micanopy, stores, lumber, &c. are being transported thither, as if an active campaign were commencing. We fear Gen. Jesup is time by his humanity, in giving the time they asked to surrender, they will surrender, there are no slight hopes. Daily, we expect something decisive on this point. We wait for what time will bring to light.

Egypt.—The plague continued to rage in lower Egypt. It had now been at three different points on the Eastern Tunic.